

October 2019 PLC:

# **Supporting Children and Families Impacted by Domestic Violence**

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**October 9, 2019**



# **Children's Bureau Updates**

October 9, 2019

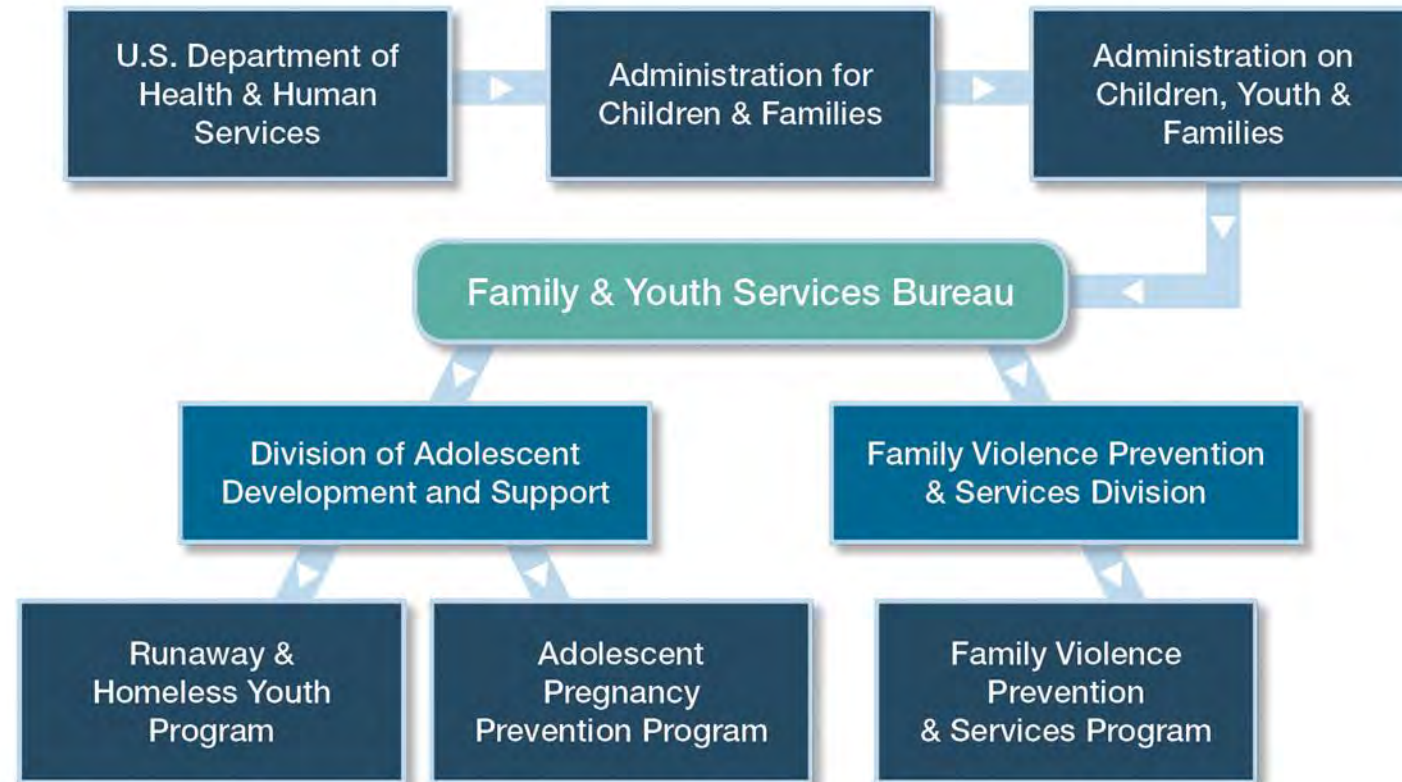


## Family Violence Prevention & Services Program

# Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Program Overview



# Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB)



## FYSB's Mission

To support the organizations and communities that work every day to put an end to youth homelessness, adolescent pregnancy and domestic violence.



## FYSB's Vision

A future in which all our nation's youth, individuals and families – no matter what challenges they may face – can live healthy, productive, violence-free lives.

# Family Violence Prevention & Services Program

- **Family Violence Prevention and Services Act** is the primary federal resource dedicated to provision of domestic violence shelters, supportive services, and related programming for victims of domestic/dating violence and their dependents.
- **FVPSA Programs include:**
  - State and Territorial Formula Grants
  - Native American Tribes Formula Grants
  - State and Territory Domestic Violence Coalitions Grants
  - Discretionary Grants
  - Training and Technical Assistance Resource Centers Grants
  - National Domestic Violence Hotline Grant



## FVPSA Statutory Purposes

- Assist States and Tribes in efforts to prevent domestic violence and dating violence.
- Provide immediate shelter and supportive services for victims of domestic violence and their dependents.
- Provide for a National Domestic Violence Hotline.
- Provide for technical assistance and training relating to domestic violence and DV programs to States, Tribes, public agencies, community-based programs and the public.
- Provide specialized services for abused parents and their children.

## 2018 FVPSA Services Data



Provided 9,123,443 million shelter nights for victims and their families.



Responded to 2,779,963 million crisis calls



Provided emergency shelter and supportive services to nearly 1,289,554 million victims of domestic violence.



## How are children are exposed to DV?

Often exposed to violence for the first time in their homes, either by directly seeing or hearing physical violence occur between their parents

- Seeing their parent threatened, demeaned, or battered
- Being caught in a violent incident – intentionally or by accident
- Seeing the after-effects of abuse: bruises, broken objects, police being called to the home, related trauma responses
- Living in a household dominated by tension, stress, fear

Research shows that attachment to the non-abusive parent is protective of children's resilience and development.

# How are children are impacted by DV?

- Potential for injury during their mother's pregnancy
  - 53% of women aged 16-29 in family planning clinics reported physical or sexual violence from an intimate partner
- Being used and manipulated by the abusive person – having the victim parent's authority undermined
- Suffering from the consequences of economic abuse
- Separation from the victim parent may further traumatize children and negatively impact their healing – children need to observe their parent establish safety and thrive in a life free of abuse



# FVPSA Partnerships focused on Children & Youth



- **RHY & Relationship Violence Toolkit** – Online source of information, resources, tips, and tools developed by and for advocates in the runaway and homeless youth and domestic and sexual assault fields to help programs better address relationship violence with youth living in unstable living situations.
- **Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention** – Working across the Bureau to develop blog posts on intersecting issues, collaborating to support conferences and training efforts, and cross promotion of resources.
- **Quality Improvement Center (QIC) on Child Welfare Involved Children and Families Experiencing Domestic Violence** – A five-year effort funded by the Children's Bureau to research, analyze, and identify best practices for improving how child welfare agencies, domestic violence programs and other partners work collaboratively to improve outcomes for families experiencing domestic violence.
- **Federal Interagency Work Group on Child Abuse and Neglect (FEDIAWG)** – Convened quarterly by the Children's Bureau to share new initiatives, engage in peer-to-peer consultation, or discuss implementation of new ideas.

# FVPSA-Funded National Training and Technical Assistance Resource Centers



NCDBW



national  
latin@  
network  
casa de esperanza



The National Domestic Violence  
**HOTLINE**  
1.800.799.SAFE (7233) • 1.800.787.3224 (TTY)







**National Resource Centers:**

- National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
- National Indigenous Women's Resource Center

**Special Interest Resource Centers:**

- Battered Women's Justice Project and the National Clearinghouse for Defense of Battered Women
- Resource Center on Domestic Violence: Child Protection and Custody
- National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence
- National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma and Mental Health

**Population and Culturally Specific Institutes:**

- National Latino Network for Healthy Families and Communities
- Asian Pacific Institute on Gender Based Violence
- Ujima, Inc.: The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community

**Emerging/Current Issue Resource Centers**

- National LGBTQ Institute on Intimate Partner Violence
- National Network to End Domestic Violence Capacity Building for State DV Coalitions
- Futures Without Violence: Enhanced Services to Children & Youth Exposed to Domestic Violence
- Alaska Native Resource Center on Domestic Violence


**National Domestic Violence Hotline**

- Via phone: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) / Online Chat via the Web: [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)



# Meeting at the Intersections

Reimagining the Domestic Violence and Child Welfare Systems' Response to Families in Crisis



The purpose of the Intersections Cohort is to provide multiple styles and opportunities for learning – virtual and in person to build new knowledge, new thinking and a re-imagining of how to best meet the needs of communities and families in crisis.

<https://rcdvcpc.org/cohort-home.html>

Project Partners include:





# 24 Month Learning Community



- **At The National Level**

- 4 National Training and Technical Assistance Resource Centers
- Faculty/Experts in child welfare, domestic violence and related fields
- Researchers and Evaluators

- **At The Local Level**

- 3 Sites: Detroit, MI; Minneapolis, MN; Austin, TX
- Includes survivors with lived experience
- Wide range of professionals from domestic violence and child welfare systems
- Judges and other court staff
- Community advocates

Cohorts receive ongoing mentoring and support for planning and implementing strategies and approaches to meet the specific needs of their communities.

Futures Without Violence: National Capacity Building Center to Expand Services for  
Children, Youth, and Abused Parents Impacted by Domestic Violence

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[www.promisingfutureswithoutviolence.org](http://www.promisingfutureswithoutviolence.org)





## Promising Futures Capacity Building Center, a project of Futures Without Violence

- Provides support to the network of domestic violence state coalitions and local community-based programs to enhance services for parent and child survivors of domestic violence
- A major focus is to build organizational structures and services that prioritize child well-being, opportunities for healing, building resilience, and breaking the intergenerational cycle of violence all within the context of the parent-child relationship.

# Promising Futures Areas of Impact

- Provide training and technical assistance to FVPSA's Specialized Services for Abused Parents and their Children (SSAPC) demonstration sites
- Build capacity of the domestic violence and child welfare field to provide effective programming, interventions, and prevention of abuse for children and youth and their caregivers
- Bridge research with practice; disseminate practical tools and resources
- Provide access to information on the wide range of best practices through Promising Futures website
- Advance the field towards more programs incorporating and developing trauma-informed strategies and culturally relevant best practices

# Specialized Services for Abused Parents and their Children



Promising Futures:  
Best Practices for Serving Children, Youth, & Parents  
Experiencing Domestic Violence

- Boston Medical Center Corporation (Massachusetts)
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc. (Alaska)
- Domestic Violence Action Center (Hawaii)
- Durham County Department of Social Services (North Carolina)
- Foothill Family Service (California)
- Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence
- Kansas Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence
- MaineHealthcare
- Mountain Comprehensive Care Center (Kentucky)
- SAFE Alliance (Texas)
- Southeast Regional Alaska Health Consortium
- Texas Council on Family Violence



# Map of SSAPC Sites





# SSAPC Program Goals

1. Expand systems and responses to abused parents and their children and youth exposed to DV
2. Coordinate or provide new or enhanced residential and non-residential services for children and youth exposed to DV
3. Enhance evidence-informed and practice-informed services, strategies, advocacy, and interventions for children and youth exposed to DV

# SSAPC Expected Outcomes

By the end of the grant, each grantee will have:

1. Improved outcomes for abused parents and their children and youth exposed to DV by designing and implementing a program that meets the program goals
2. Expanded their capacity to prevent future domestic violence by addressing the needs of children exposed to DV

Project periods are for 2 years with HHS discretion to renew for another 2 year project period; current cohort completing their 4<sup>th</sup> year.

A new funding opportunity announcement for the next cohort is expected to be published in January 2020.

# Promising Futures Support of FVPSA's 12 SSAPC Demonstration Site Grantees

- In-person Meeting Once a Year
- Monthly Cohort Calls
- Monthly Check-in calls with Individual Grantees
- Site Visits, Intensive Working Meetings
- Peer to Peer Networking/Affinity Groups Video Conferences
- 6 Month TA Surveys
- Lessons Learned Report (2 Year, 4 Year)
- Evaluation

# Current Evaluation Efforts

## Goals for outcomes

- Brief, usable by DV programs and other settings
- Not complicated, apply broadly
- Based on evidence
- For parents, children, practitioners, and collaborative partners

FVPSA Outcome items (e.g., I know more ways to plan for my safety, I know more about community resources) are correlated with longer-term improved safety and well-being in experimental RCT studies.

# Common Outcome Measures

- Sites have implemented common outcome measures with fidelity
- Some sites have requested adaptations of measures to fit community context and age groups
- Common outcome measures assess the impact of intervention on parents, impact of intervention on children (ages 8 and above)
  - DV-practitioner trainings
  - trainings for other systems (e.g., child protective services)
  - impact on cross-systems collaboration

# Common Outcome Measures

## Parents:

- I have the tools and information to plan for my children's (child's) safety.
- I feel confident as a parent.
- I am comfortable talking with my children (child) about things that matter to us.
- I understand the various impacts that DV has had on my child/children.

## Children Over Age 8:

- I know ways to get help when I am scared or upset.
- I understand that the troubles in my family are not my fault.
- I understand the troubles in my family.
- I am comfortable talking with my parent(s) about things that matter to me

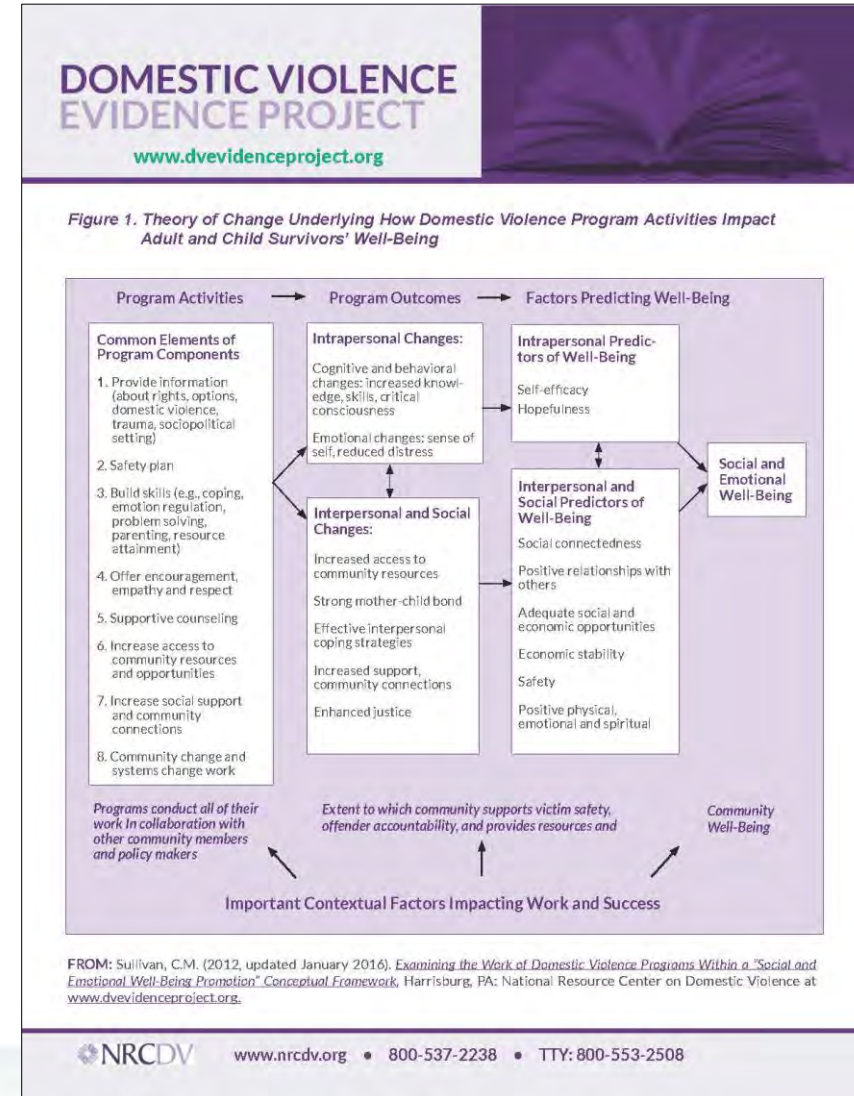


# Family Violence Prevention & Services Research & Evaluation

## The Domestic Violence Evidence Project

Combines research, evaluation, practice and theory to inform critical thinking and enhance the domestic violence field's knowledge to better serve survivors and their families in four focus areas: Services to Adult Victims, Children's Services, Prevention, and Reducing Abusive Behavior

<http://www.dvevidenceproject.org/>

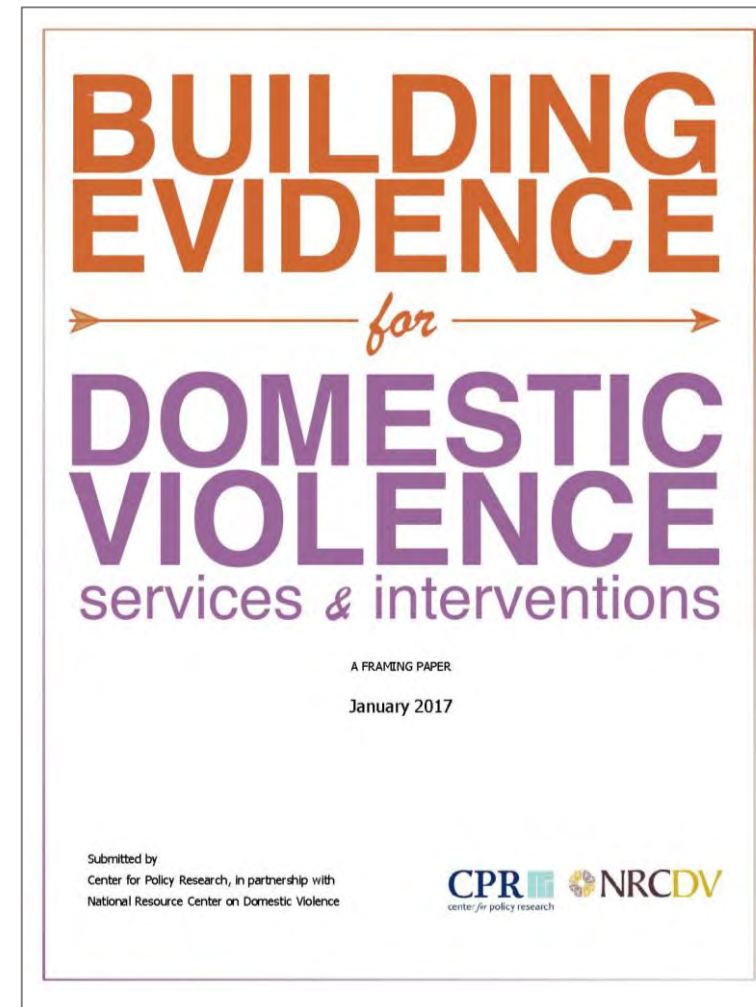


# Family Violence Prevention & Services Research & Evaluation

## Building Evidence for Domestic Violence Services & Interventions (2016)

Summarizes findings from a systematic literature review, interviews with subject matter experts, and two-day roundtable on the current state of the evidence for domestic violence services and interventions. Highlights innovative and concrete areas of opportunity for building this evidence base

<https://aspe.hhs.gov/pdf-report/building-evidence-domestic-violence-services-interventions-framing-paper>



# Power through Partnerships: Community Based Participatory Research Toolkit

**A Community Based Participatory Research Toolkit for Domestic Violence Researchers (2018)** This toolkit provides support to emerging researchers as they consider whether and how to take a CBPR approach and what it might mean in the context of their professional roles and settings. Domestic violence advocates will also find useful information on the CBPR approach and how it can help answer important questions about their work.

<https://cbprtoolkit.org/>



COMMUNITY BASED  
PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH

# What can CBCAP programs do?

- View child safety as inherently linked to the safety of their abused parent
- Promote protective factors that lessen the impact of DV and nurture resiliency in abused parents and their children
- Develop and maintain mutually respectful relationships victim advocates in your community – know their programs and services
- Train across disciplines – share your expertise and support one another to create the best outcomes for abuse parents and their children
- Provide informational brochures on DV as part of your services
- Help abused parents find the support they need – ensure that it is trauma-informed, culturally relevant, appropriate, and accessible
- When working with abused parents, help restore their sense of agency and decision-making as a parent



# Resources

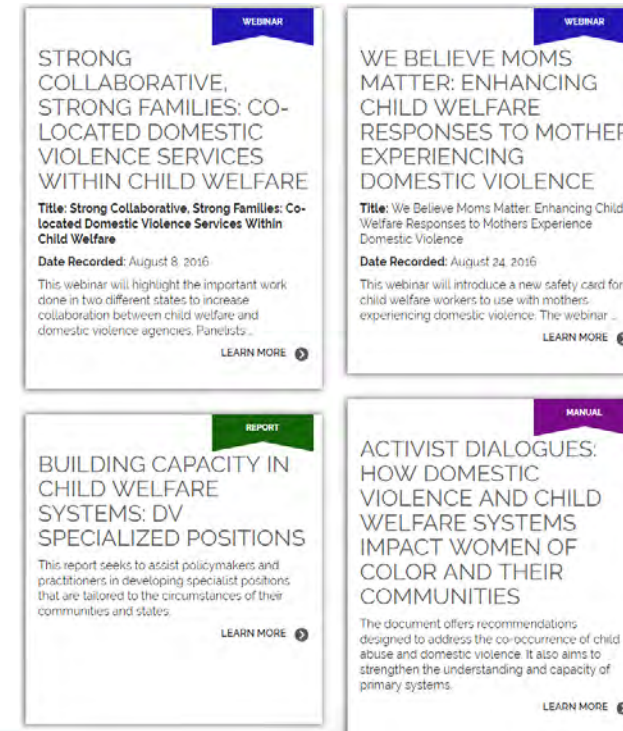


## Promising Futures Without Violence

<http://promising.futureswithoutviolence.org/>

## Futures Without Violence – Child Welfare Webinars & Reports

<https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/>



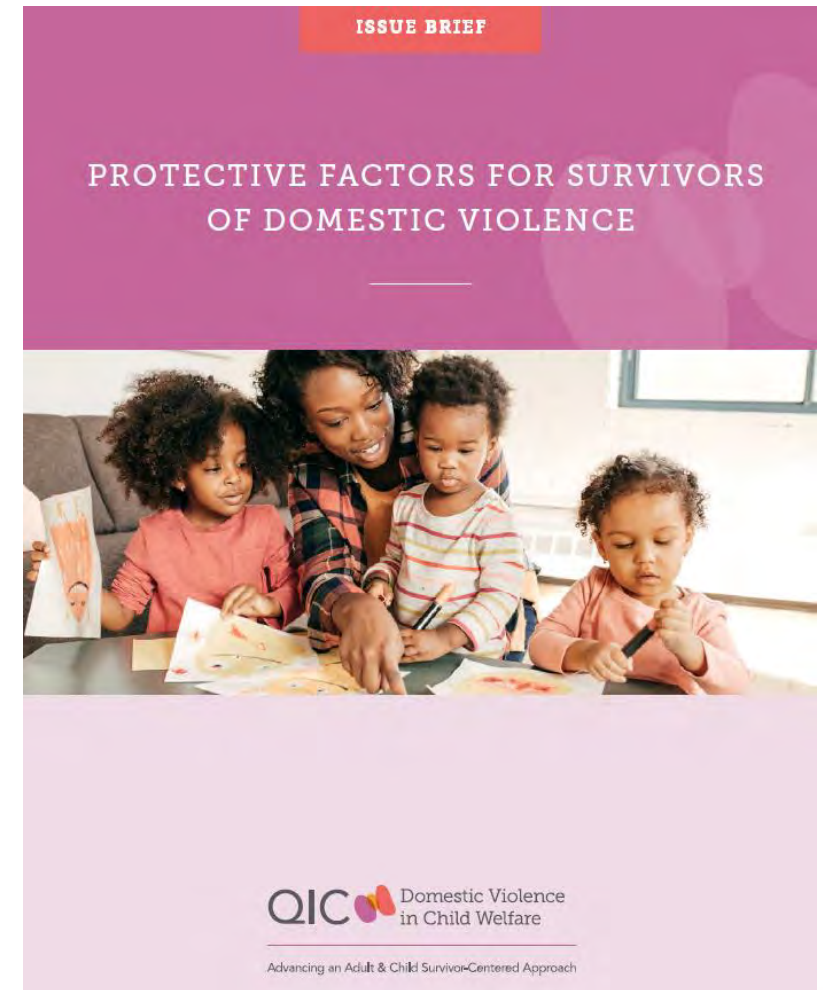
# Resources

From the Quality Improvement Center  
on Domestic Violence in Child Welfare

## Issue Brief: Protective Factors for Survivors of Domestic Violence

This Approach involves building protective factors that lessen the impact of domestic violence for adult and child survivors and promote their safety, healing, and well-being.

<https://dvchildwelfare.org/resources/issue-brief-on-the-protective-factors-for-survivors-of-domestic-violence/>





# Resources



[www.preventipv.org](http://www.preventipv.org)

Formed to enhance the capacity of state/territory domestic violence coalitions and community-based domestic violence programs to advance and broaden support for a comprehensive national prevention agenda

# Thank you!

For more information about this presentation or about FVPSA:



**Please take a moment to fill out our short evaluation.**

**Your participation in the evaluation will help us to improve  
our future services to prevention programs.**

**Click this link to be taken directly to the survey:**

**[https://ousurvey.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2cuEsL  
1XzoOqUmh](https://ousurvey.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2cuEsL1XzoOqUmh)**